

3/3/85

GREEK KASHMIR

[400 BC - 100 BC]

© All rights reserved with
author.

-- Iqbal Ahmad
Sri Pratap Singh
Museum Lal Mandi
Srinagar Kashmir - 190 008.

P R E F A C E

The monogram captioned Greek-Kashmir describes the coins and other archaeological evidences of Greeks found in Kashmir. By term Greeks I mean to say Bactrian and Indo-Greek kings and their contemporaries and immediate successors who have left their numismatic and archaeological evidences of Greek pattern. Those include the central Asian dynasties of Indo-Scythians and Indo-Parthians. As these people were very much influenced by Greek technologies and culture which is very much reflected by their numismatics.

Greeks were first who introduced wonderful inscribed coins on the soil of India and Pakistan. Their coins are bimetallic and bilingual and in numerous types. Their bust type coins which depict half portrait of the respective issuer has been their most dominant type. Their coins are known in silver and copper, denominated as drachm and tetradrachm. The inscriptions are given in Greek and Kharoshti Scripts.

It was on the basis of their coin finds which after proper scientific study helped historians to establish Ancient Greek History of the sub-continent. About 32 such Greek kings were identified to had ruled Indian sub-continent one after the other or sometime as contemporaries. Their coins are well deciphered and properly studied in several collections and museums of the world. Afghanistan, Pakistan and few areas of Northern India have revealed a good number of such ancient coins. Thousands of Bactrian and Indo-Greek coins are also housed in the museums of these countries.

There are very little evidence of Greeks found in Kashmir those too are not properly attended.

Kashmir museum known as Sri Pratap Singh Museum housed Greek coins. G B Bleazby was first numismatist who in his list of coins of SPS Museum enlisted few such coins. However, he has not given any description of these coins.

It is for the first time that a scientific study of these coins found in Kashmir is under taken which includes the study of bilingual legends, motifs and other related details. An attempt in this monogram has also been to search out the events of the mysterious Greek period history of Kashmir through this

numismatic source. This monogram has not only documented all most all Greek coins found in Kashmir but it carries a detail description of these coins besides a brief historical outline of various dynasties of the period.

Introduction about ancient Greeks is followed by a historical outline of Mauryan period. The Bactrian Greek, Indo-Greek, Indo-Scythian and Parthian rulers are mentioned in a chronological order. Their coinages are described separately. The description of coins follows by catalogue pages, where under major types of these coins are catalogued.

This is first monograms of this type where under a mysterious period of Kashmir history has been addressed by the scientific study of ancient coins. It is hoped shall provide basis for other scholars to undertake more deeper researchers in the subject. My thanks are due to my colleagues Mr. Zahoor Ahmad (Photographer) Mr. Nasir Ahmad Khan (Composer) for helping me in various ways for bringing out this monogram.

Dated: -I-I 2003.



- Iqbal Ahmad

INTRODUCTION

The Greek period in the History of Kashmir is completely shrouded in mystery. In my, the *Hindu Kashmir*, which was published in 1977, attention of the historians was drawn towards this period starting from Euthudemos (220 B.C). At that time, I had located 11 Greek kings of Kashmir. The Kharoshti inscriptions and statues found by me in the Lolab Valley and numerous Greek coins preserved in the Srinagar Museum, all point out to the factual existence of the Greeks in Kashmir. It was during the rule of the Greeks that Buddhism was introduced in this region. It was Menadrou, who after having been defeated by Naga-Sena in a religious discussion, became a Buddhist. In that period the cultural traditions of Rome, Byzantium, Syria and Iran traveled to the valley and its influence can be traced in the archaeological style of the Sun Temple of Martand. Similar foreign influences can be traced in the constructional style of the *Takht-i-Sulaiman*, and the Buddhist terra-cottas of Harwan *Ushkar and Akhnur*. The Greek period in the history of Kashmir, is more or less established by the Greek rulers, notably, Eothedemos, Eukratides, Menandrou, Demetrius Appollodotus and, Hipostertos.

Mr. Iqbal Ahmad is a trained numismatist and well qualified to provide us with the latest information about the coinage in Kashmir. This time, he has taken a scientific study of the Greek Coins of Kashmir. This study has been done for the first time for which, the learned author deserves our appreciation.

Prof. Fida M. Hassnain

ANCIENT GREEKS

Greece is situated in the South Eastern part of Europe and is separated from the Asia minor by the Aegean Sea. Number of islands appear on all the three sides of the main Peninsula. One of its largest islands called Create provided a stage for the predessors of Ancient Greeks to establish a civilization called Aegeans or cretans. It is also known by other names such as the Cretan or Minoan. The Aegean empire is believed to have flourished between 2800 and 1400 BC, probably with its capital at Crossus. Years later the Mycenaean from the main land conquered crete and seized the Aegean empire. They were Greek speaking people. In 2000 BC the main land of Greece was invaded by Achaeans. The other Greece speaking tribes who invaded it in later years include Dorains, Lonians, Aetolians and Persians. The conquerors through inter marriages with locals became a mixed race. Greeks under Persian emperor Cyrus 558-30 BC built a large empire. Its borders in the east are said to have stretched to Afghanistan. Some Greek historians believe Cyrus to have subjugated the Indian tribes of the Paropanisus and the Kabul valley, especially the Gandharians¹.

In the Behistan inscription of Darius (Greek King) Gadara i.e. Gandhara is mentioned as one of the provinces of this empire. Darius I (542-586 BC) emperor is believed to have invaded a portion of the Indus region some time in 518 BC. He is said to have sent an expedition to explore the possibility of a passage to the sea from the mouth of the Indus to Persia and in that connection mentions Kaspapyros as a city of the Gandharians. 'It is therefore not unlikely that Kashmir came for sometime under the sway of the Achaemends observes, PNK Bamzai².

Although these early Greek Kings may have partly influenced the

political scenario of the Indian sub-continent but there are not a single evidences of these kings found in Kashmir. The evidences of earliest Greeks in Kashmir have been found of Demetrius of Syria Philip II of Macedon, Alexander III of Macedon and Alexander the great. G B Bleazby has enlisted 9 silver coins of these early Greek kings in state museum of Kashmir at Srinagar³.

There is no mention of Kashmir in the records of Alexander the great but during his invasion of principalities bordering Kashmir several Grecian soldiers are said settled in frontier regions of the land. Gopis of Hunza are the descendants of Alexander the great's soldiers⁴.

Alexander the great ascended the Greek throne in 336 BC. He was only 20, when he became the undisputed leader of Greece.

His conquests included Egyptian and Persian empires, Alexander invaded India from north-west and defeated king Porus at the battle of Hydapes? 326 BC⁵. He is believed to have adopted the route which comparatively laid near to the confines of Kashmir. Valley of Kashmir during th times is said was under the rule of the chief of Abhisaras (Poonch and Nowshehra).

Alexander is said crossed the Indus near Ohind (modern Und near Attock) in the spring of 326 BC. Numismatists have found a coin types which depicts motifs of two Rajas fighting with each other, one is shown on elephant and other on horse back. The former is identified some Indian Raja most probably king Porus and the later with Alexander⁶.

Abhisara the king of Poonch and Nowshehra who is believed to have held Kashmir valley is recorded surrendered to Alexander⁷ Porus was made the incharge of the whole area which Alexander conquered. The area laid between the Beas and the Jhelum. King of Taxila, Ambhi was given the territories to the west of Jhelum while Abhisara's authority was extended upto Kashmir valley⁸. Abhisaras authority over Kashmir is not

testified by any other source. However, Alexandre's numismatic finds in Kashmir museums justify his campaign of the areas bordering the beautiful valley and the possibility of his visit of the land which since times immorial was attractive for its visitors.

Alexander before his return had allowed his people which mostly consisted of Greek garrisons to settle in the land he conquered. Several frontier tribes of the Kashmir consisting of Gups and Dards are believed the descendants of the Alexander the great's soldiers. These people lived in Gilgat, Hunza, Gurez and Kargil areas of Kashmir.

The earlier evidences of Greeks in Kashmir are extremely rare and it is very difficult to say that Alexander campaign of Indian regions had any deep influence on this land.

MAURYANS

During the rising Magadhiian powers of central India in 3rd century BC. Kashmir came under its political influence. The earliest numismatics links of Kashmir available are that of with Magadh. Several ancient coins known to numismatists as imperial series Panch Marka coins¹⁰ are recorded in Kashmir museums. More recently

hoards of these coins are coming to light¹¹. There coins bear five different symbols on the obvers while the reverse is blank and in some cases carry some minute symbols. These earliest coins types are said evolved first from Magadhain Janapadha (state) which gradually flourished over a vast land. Such coins have been recovered from Kabul to frontier of Bengal. The coins found in Kashmir are Magadhain type coins. During the period of Mauryans the Magadhain Ashoka is said to had taken control of Kashmir. Kalhana¹² credits him with several foundation in Kashmir. These included the olden capital city of Pandrethan, Viharas , Stupas , famous Viyeshwara temple at Bijbehara (South Kashmir).

Buddhism in Kashmir was first introduced in Kashmir by Ashoka. Huen Tsang records settlement of 5000 Buddhist monks by Ashoka. He is said to have made it the propagation center for Buddhist teachings and learning.

Ashoka in Kashmir, is reported, was succeeded by one, Jalauka, who is described as his son, archaeological layers at Semithan in South Kashmir revealed archaeological and numismatic evidences of few tribble and Sunga Kings¹³. Most of these evidences have gone

unrecorded so it is difficult to say that these people had any influence on Kashmir. During the latter years of Ashoka's reign.

BACTRIAN GREEKS

Kalhana tells that the country was harassed by the incursions of the Malechas and Jalenka is said to have waged a war against these people. These Malechas are referred to another branch of Greeks called Bactrian Greeks who had emerged from Bactria (Bakhtar) Central Asian Region in about 3rd century BC¹⁴¹

After the return of Alexander several Greek colonies left in Central Asia. They exercised their own authorities. Bactria was one such region towards the north of Hindukush where Greek authority continued for a long period. These Greeks however, had no any influence towards the regions which existed towards the south of Hindukush, Greek and numismatic records suggest that Diodotus the Greek king in about 250 BC revolted against the imperial authority of Seleucids and declared his independence in Bactria (Bakhtar). He was succeeded by the name of same king called Diodotus-II then by Euthydemas and Demetrius respectively. The Bactrian Greek princes later took expeditions

towards the South of Hinduskush. These kings where foreigners and most probably had invaded Kashmir in the period of Jalanka. Demetruis is said to have become the king of that empire which included parts of South Kashmir ¹⁵. No doubt the literary evidences are meager but Bactrin Greeks have got little bit numismatic evidence in southern parts of Kashmir. Several silver coins of Diodotus, Euthydmoms and Demetrius are found in Kashmir G B Bleazby numismatist has also recorded coins of Euthy Demus and Eukritidus in the coin cabins of Srinagar Museum. Coins of Diodotus, Euthey Demons,, Eukritidus Agatheocles and Antimachus are seen in the exhibits of the museum¹⁶. Despite of these numismatic evidences, the influence of Bactrin Greeks kings in Kashmir is a highly defiled subject, and in absence of sufficient records we are helpless to give any picture. Little bit of attention is required to be paid on their coin finds of the land. But for Indo-Greeks there are ample evidences of their kings found in Kashmir.

INDO-GREEKS

Indo-Greek kings emerged from Bactria. The two Bactrian Greek Kings Demetrius and Eukritidus

made extensive conquests towards south of Hindukush. These two were the most ambitious Bactrian Greek kings and helped in foundation of Indo-Greek empire in the sub-continent in about 150 BC. The Kingdom included Pakistan and most parts of north India. Demetrius's empire is said included parts of Kashmir too. The two houses produced more than thirty rulers, who ruled the Kingdom one after the other and sometimes contemporaries. Following are given the names of few most famous rulers of both the houses.

HOUSE OF DEMETRIUS

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 01. Zoilos | 02. Strato | 03. Menandar |
| 04. Apollodotus | 05. Hippostrats | |

HOUSE OF EUKRITIDUS

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 01. Pantelion | 02. Agathocles |
| 03. Heliokels | 04. Anticaliads |
| 05. Antimachus | 06. Harmouns |

These kings are mostly known through their coins. Numismatists have deciphered thousands of coins of these Indo-Greek Kings from their occupied parts of India and Pakistan. Hundreds

of such coins are known from Kashmir too. . G B Bleazby has recorded 22 coins of Indo-Greek kings in his list of coins. These included coins of Apollodotus, Menander, Antimachus and Hippostratos. In recent past number of copper coins of several Indo-Greek coins have come into light which includes coins of Eukratidus Demetrous, Antialcids, Archebius Strato and Harmious. Coins of Menander nd Appolodotus have been found in good number in Southern Kashmir. Semithan (Bijbehara) prior to its excavation yielded several Indo-Greek coins. There are still reports arriving from the Semithan regarding the discovery of such coins but unfortunately most of such coins go into hands of antique dealers who are hardly concerned with its historic value.

Other archaeological evidences also throw some light on the presence of Indo-Greek rulers in the valley. Period III at Semithan has revealed a deposit of 40 cams consisting of several floor levels. The pottery is distinguished by a thin fabric with bright, red, orange or light slip. A clay seal depicted an Indo-Greek deity. A significant find was the discovery of a pot with the inscription consisting of five letters engraved below the rim portion externally. It reads as *Dharmorai or Dharmo (Rajai)*

On Paleographic grounds it is datable to 1st century BC which coincides with the stratigraphy of the find also. Perhaps it refers to king Menander the great conqueror.¹⁷

Menander, as reported, was a zealous Buddhist. He had given protection to Buddhists persecuted by Sungas. *Milindapanha* records a discussion between Nagasena, the Buddhist saint and Milinda or Menandar that was held at a place which was only 12 *Yogenas* from Kashmir.¹⁸ Menander was very familiar in the region there are several places which carry his name. Two such places are also identified towards South-West Kashmir, one as Mendhar in Poonch District and another Memander in Pulwama district.

These Indo-Greek are said to have been responsible for promotion of Graeco-Buddhist art in the region. Its main centre was founded in Gandhara modern (Khandar) in first century BC. It produced such artifacts which depicted scenes from the life of the Buddha. The aquiline nose, the large lotus eyes and the folded drapery like features are commonly found in Graeco-Buddhist sculptures. The terra-cotta and stone sculptures found at Bijbehara, Semithan Ushkar, and Parihaspura sites indicate deep Grecian influence on early

Kashmir art. Kashmiri artists were deeply effected by Grecian artistic influence.

Several Scholars held Indo-Greeks responsible for cultivating the beautiful architectural and sculptural style of the old Kashmiri temples. The characteristic features of the Kashmirian architecture observes PNK Bamzai, are its lofty pyramidal roofs, its trefoiled door ways, covered by pyramidal pediments and the great width of its inter-columnations. That it had been influenced by Greek and Roman styles is evidenced by the close resemblance which the Kashmirian columnade bears to the classical peristyle of Greece. At the same time the echinos, which is the leading feature of the Kashmirian capital is also the chief member of the Doric Capital. It seems that the Kashmirian architects borrowed the style from the Indo-Greeks⁹.

In view of these numismatic and archaeological evidences Kashmir authority of Indo-Greeks is testified to a certain extent. They may have no control on its entire land but the authority of few Indo-Greek Kings for some time cannot be ruled out.

Hippostrate and Harmuos were the lost rulers of the empire who were taken over by Scythins and Parthians.

INDO-SCYTHIANS

Scythians are said belonged to a nomadic tribe. They first emerged from Farghana and later moved towards the Indo-Greek empire.

They are believed to have occupied Indo-Greek empire in 1st century BC and held it for a little period due to the threat of rising power of Kushans who founded their mighty empire in first century AD. Indo-Scythians are said to have adopted Kashmir route instead of Kabul way. They crossed Koh-i-Karakoram via Kashgar and proceeded towards the sub-continent. Their authority extended from Kashmir up to Gandhara which included Swat-Valley, Udayana and Taxila. Few viceroys are believed to have gone up to Sindh and Mathura. Maues is said to have founded the Indo-Scythian empire in India; he was succeeded by Vonones, Azes I, Azilises and Azes II.

For Indo-Scythians literary evidences are very less but numismatic and archaeological evidences are so strong that their authority over the land can easily be testified.

Cunningham was the first archaeologist who traced the Indo-Scythian authority over Kashmir by recording a large find of silver coins of Azes and Azilises, from the upper reaches of Jhelum.

Valley . G B Bleazby records 223 silver and 2 copper coins of Indo-Scythian kings, preserved in State Museum at Srinagar.

Copper coins of several Indo-Scythian kings were also found in one of the layers of the Semithian archaeological site . These included coins of Azes and Azelises. Their copper coins are still found in and around Semithan plateau. Several such copper coins were recently purchased by the state museum authorities at Srinagar. The coins of all most all Indo-Scythian Kings are recorded in Kashmir these are as follows:

01. Mous
02. Vonones
03. Azes
04. Azeslises
05. Azes II
06. Spalarises

In view of this strong numismatic evidences Indo-Scythian authority of the land stands well attested.

INDO-PARTHIAN

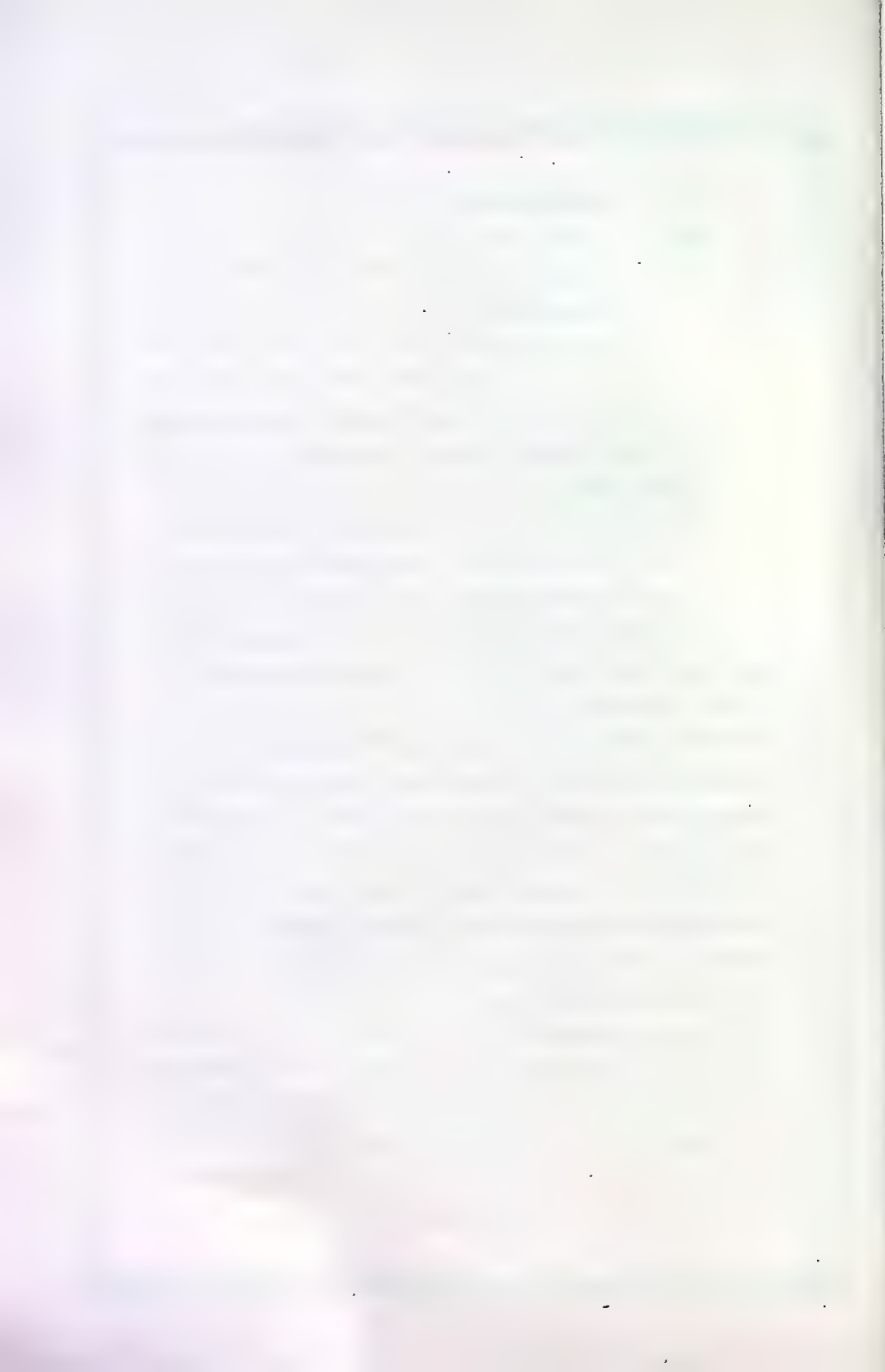
Gondphares, Indo-Parthian Viceroy to Afghanistan is said declared his independence from Parthian masters of Bactria. Sometime in first decade of the 1st century BC and moved towards Indo-Scythian empire during last decades of 1st Century BC. He is mentioned in an inscription found at *Takhat-e-Bhai* (Pakistan). The inscription which nowadays is in Punjab museum at Lahore carried figure date 20 of some unknown era. Gondphares name occurs in Christian tradition connected with the Apostle Thomas, who is stated arrived India in Gandphare's period. Thomas is said made several converts, including Gondphares himself and his brother Gud, and ultimately met a martyrs death².

Gondphares is identified on number of coins, recovered from Kabul to Texila. He has got a good numismatic evidence also in North Indian states including that of Kashmir. A hoard of Indo-Parthian rulers is recorded to had been found somewhere from Jammu the winter capital of the state. G B Bleazby has recorded six Indo-Parthian coins in the state museum at Srinagar. Coins of the following rulers are recorded in Kashmir.

- 01. Gondphares**
- 02. Aspa Varma**
- 03. Abadagases**
- 04. Hyrecodes**
- 05. Zeinoses**

Among all Zeinoses coins Bull/Lion type are mostly found with in Kashmir borders, several such pieces are recorded in the museum of the state at Srinagar. These were reportedly found from northern and Southern regions of the state. The motifs of Parthian horse riddes are also found on several terra-cotta tiles recovered from the famous Terra-cotta settlement site of Harwan, Srinagar.

These numismatic and archaeological evidences speak of their some little authority of the land soon after the downfall of Indo-Scythian rulers. The land was finally taken over by mightly Kushans some time in first century AD. The kings of this density are not only mentioned in its local traditions but have also got strong literary and numismatic evidences.



COINS

PANCH MARKA COINS

Bleazby on the top of his list has made a mention of two ancient coins. These are the earliest evidences of Panch Marka coin struck on local weight standard of Karhspana which was kept under 3 grms. A very common ancient and earlier Indian coin type found from Kabul to the frontier of Bengal including Kashmir is known to numismatists Panch Marka. These are Circular flat pieces of their silver or more rarely copper cut from a hammered sheet of metal and clipped to the desired weight.

These coins on obverse bear one to five different symbols impressed on the metal pieces by means of a separate punches. Numismatists have classified Punch Marka coins in two major series, one is called local series and is dated to Janaphada

Period 600 BC-350 BC. This was the age when Indian sub-continent was divided into several minor and major states. These states were responsible in striking of such earlier Panch Marka coins which carried one to four symbols. No such coin is recorded from Kashmir. The coin type found here bear all five symbols. There are classified under imperial series coins and universally accepted had

evolved from the major state of Maghada. These are dated to the period 350 BC to 150 BC.

Although earlier only two pieces were known from the land but when in recent past excavations were carried at Semithan (Bijbehara) in South Kashmir more such pieces came into light. The Srinagar Museum have also enriched its Panch Marka coins from two to nine pieces.

Seven other such hoards were found in Kashmir but most such coins have gone unrecorded. I have seen several Panch Marka coins in private collections of the state. These all coins are uninscribed pieces and no local inscribed coin of the land is known from anywhere.

GREEK COINS

Greeks were first people who struck inscribed coins in their occupied parts of India and Pakistan. Their coins are known in two metals, silver and copper. The earliest coins are struck on attic weight standard. This attic currency was based in silver and copper. The Tetradrachm was struck just under 17 grams and drachm 4 grms. This attic standard is said was introduced by Alexander and made universal in the regions which he conquered, and which was maintained by the Seleucid kings who succeeded him in

Asia . These coins bear Greek legends with Greek deities on the reverse side of the coin and the bust of the issuer towards obverse of the coin. The nine silver coins of earlier Greek coins found in Kashmir are classified as under :

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| i. Demetrius of Syeria | - 01 |
| ii. Philp II of Macedon | - 02 |
| iii. Alexander III of Macedon | - 02 |
| iv. Alexander the Great | - 04 |

Bactrian Greek followed the numismatic traditions of their ancestors. Their coins are also known in silver and copper. The bust type coins bear Greek legends on reverses and the bust of the issuer towards obverses. They have kept the similar weight standard and placed Greek deities in the centre of the reverses of their coins. Bactrian Greek Kings Diodotus and Euthydemus both are represented by their single issues.

These are tetra drachms carrying diademed busts of their issuers on obverse and the images of famous Greek deities Zeus and Heracles respectively on their reverses. The attribution of these two coins to these kings is mainly on the bases of their Greek legends. Eucratides and Demetrius who set up the bases for Indo-Greeks are the earliest Indo-Greek monarchs who struck

their coins on another standard which was a bit less than the earlier one. The successive Indo-Greek princes are said finally gave up the Attic standard and developed a new standard which was less than the former one.

Few scholars called it Persian while most of the scholars believed it as Indian standard. Under this weight standard, a drachm weighed under three grams and tetradrachm under twelve grams with its various fractions. The new standard developed in conjunction with the custom of using on the coins Indian transcripts of Greek legends in Kharoshti letters. The new Indian standard was based on Karshapana standard, adopted for striking of Indian Panch Marka coins. Indo-Greek who struck their coins here, not only adopted north-Indian scripts but also the local weight standards.

They transcribed their Greek titles into local traditions 'Basileous Basileon' in Kharoshti is written as '*Maharaja Rajadirajasa*'. There are other several local traditions seen on other coins, Demetrous on few coins is shown wearing elephants' scalp. Agathocles and Pantelion besides other deities have displayed few Indian deities on their coins. Several local animals like elephant and bull which were common in local traditions were given place on the coins of

Menander and Appollodotus.

Their coins found in Kashmir bear the similar features. Eukratidus is represented by two coins (drachm and tetradrachm) with his bust on obverse and Dioscuri on reverse legend in both Greek and Kharoshti characters.

Appollodotus and Menander has several coins in silver as well as in copper. The popular elephant and bull square type of Appollodotus in silver is also found here. His other types are known in copper and silver. Menander has four coins on exhibition in the museum gallery at Srinagar. These are drachms and carry the bust of the king with Greek legend on obverse and Greek deity Pallas with Kharoshti legend on reverse. Antimachus and Lyasis are known from two drachms and 13 coins are assigned to Hippias. The other types which are not given in the list of G B Bleasby but are found in Kashmir are of Agathocles, Antialcidas, Lyias, Archebius, Strato and Harmians.

List of Graeco-Bactrian Coins given by G B Bleasby

Name of King	Silver	Copper
Euthy demus	01	X
Eucratides	02	X
Apollodotus	01	X
Menander	04	X
Antimachus	01	X
Hippostratus	13	X

INDO-SCYTHIAN COINS

Indo-Scythian coins have been found from Kashmir to Khandahar besides north-western parts of India where few lost Satraps of Indo-Scythians are reported to have ruled quiet for sometime during the lost decades of 1st Century BC. More or less Scythian princes followed the same pattern what the Indo-Greek had already set up here. They struck their inscribed coins with Greek titles on obverse and its transcript in Kharoshit on reverse viz.

Basilious Basilieon Megaloy in Greek and Maharajasa, Rajadirajasa, Tradatasa. In Kharoshti the bi-metallic coinages of Indo-Scythian princes are known in silver and copper their drachms also weigh under 3 grms. Although they kept the same weight standard but could

not maintain the purity of their silver coins. It has been observed that their silver coins have less silver content as compared to Indo-Greek silver coinages.

The major change in the coin types brought was they dropped the motif of placing the bust of the king on the obverse and instead introduced a new motif of king on horse back which served the typical monogram for their entire coinages. Indo-Greeks have been placing the bust of their issuer on the obverse it was the motif which almost all Indo-Greeks kings followed but soon when Indo-Scythians came to struck their money they totally dropped it from their coins but kept the other numismatic traditions of Indo-Greek invogue

They kept the reverses of their coins unchanged. The reverse of their coins have given way to various Greek deities. Like few Indo-Greek coins their several such coins are also known which carried the motifs of several Indian deities and animals.

The land of Kashmir preserves a very good number of Indo-Scythians coins. They are found more common as compared to Greek coins. Hundreds of such coins were recorded to have been found

from upper reaches of Jehlum valley . G B

Bleazby has recorded 223 Indo-Scythian coins only in silver in Kashmir museum. While several coins are known in copper as well. Their are reports of Scythian coins reaching to some gold smiths of historic town of Bijbehara in South Kashmir. The find spot of such coins is stated lies in the outskirts of that historic town. The coins found of Indo-Scythians are classified as under:

KING	COPPER	SILVER
Maues	1	X
Azes	1	27
Azes with Azilises	X	02
Azilises	X	77
Spalahores with Vonones	X	45
Spalarises	X	06
Spalarises with Azes	X	15

INDO-PARTHIAN COINS

Indo-Parthian coins are also known in Indo-Greek pattern but silver content in their silver coins is extremely low these are termed base metal coins with illegible Greek characters. Their two types are very popular, one is Nike type and another horseman type; The Nike type bears

the motif of various deities on both sides of the coin while the horse man type depicts the king on horse back on the one side and other side remains unchanged. Few Bust type coins are also known. The Nike and bust type coins are mostly found in Khandahar region while the horseman type in the regions of Taxila and Jammu and Kashmir state. One another coin type depicting Indian bull on one side and lion on other side is very popular type of Zeionises an Indo-Parthian Satrap reported from Kashmir. Few coins of the type in copper are still reported from the land. The types of Parthian Satraps are classified as under:

KING	SILVER	COPPER
Gondhphares	3	1
Aspavarma	X	X
Abdogases	1	X
Zeionises	X	1

CATALOGUE

PANCH MARKA

METAL	DENOMINATION	OBVERSE	REVERSE
Silver	Karshapana	Depicting five different symbols which are partly off the field. The symbols have been punched over one another.	Impression of one minute symbol.
Silver	Do	Do	Do
Silver	Do	Do	Do
Silver	Do	Do	Traces of few symbols visible.
Silver	Do	Depicting five different symbols which are partly off the flan. The symbols have been punched over one another.	Impression of one minute symbol

DIODOTOS

Silver

Tetradrachm

Head of the king
to the right.
Greek legend
basileous
diodotos

Zeas striding to
the left and
hurling thunder
bolt; aegis on
left arm and
wrath in field
underneath it;
at his feet eagle
is seen to left.

EUTHYDEMOS

Silver

Tetradrachm

Head of the king
to the right.
Greek legend
Basileous
Euthydemos.

Hearkles with
club as before
seated to left
on rock over
which lions skin
has been
thrown; club
resting on his
right knee.

EUKRATIDES

Copper

Tetradrachm

Rude helmeted
bust of the king
to right. Greek
legned indistinct
only few traces
are visible.

Rude
motif of
Dioscure
charging to
right, holding
long lances and
palms
Kharoshti,
legend
indistinct.

Copper

Tetradrachm

Rude head of
the king to right.
Greek legend
indistinct.

The rude figure
of Pilei of the
Dioscure had
two palms
Kharoshti
legned
indistinct.

MENANDAR

Copper	Drachm	Rude elephants head to right with bell round neck. Greek legend in rude shape, Basilious Menandar.	Club upwards in rude form Greek legend in rude form Maharajasa Menandrasa.
Silver	Drachm	Diademed bust of king to the right wearing a crested helmet. Greek legend, Basilious Menandrus.	Pallas to left with aegis on out stretched left arm, hurling thunder bolt with right hand Kharoshti legend above, Maharajasa Menandrasa.
Silver	Drachm	Diademed bust of king to right Greek legend as above.	Do

APPOLODOTUS

Silver	Drachm	Elephant moving to the left; Greek legned Basilious Appolodotus.	Humped bull to the right, Khroshti legend Maharajasa Apaladatasa
Copper	Tetradrachm	Rude figure of Appollo standing to right, clad in Chalmys and Boots, holding with both hands an arrow; a quiver at his shoulder. Greek legend. Basilious Appolodotus - Details very rude.	Rude figure of Tripod. Khroshti legend Maharajasa Appoladatasa in very rude-form.

LYSIAS

Silver	Drachm	Diademed bust of the king to right wearing elephants scalps; above in Greek legned Basi. ioues Anikitoy, below Lysias.	Naked Herakles standing to front, holding club, lion's skin and palm in left hand and crowning himself with his right had Kharoshti legend Maharaja Lisiasa.
--------	--------	--	--

HIPPOSTRATOS

Silver	Tetradrachm	The diademed bust of the king to right Greek legend. Basilieous lppostrtus.	Greek diety called city goddess to left carrying cornucopia. Kharoshti legned; Maharajasa Hippostratasa.
Silver	Tetradrachm	Diademed bust of the king to right Greek legend Basilieous lppostratos.	King on horse back, walking to right. Kharoshti legend around it; Maharajasa Hipustratasa.

HERMAEUS

Copper	Tetradrachm	Rude bust of the king to right partly visible, Greek legend indistinct, only few letters are visible.	Greek diety Zeus seated on throne is visible partly Kharoshti legend indistinct.
--------	-------------	---	--

AZES

Silver	Tetradrachm	King on horse back to right holding Conched Lance. Greek legend Basilieous Azoy.	Pallas to right with aegis and thunderbolt. It is a Greek deity. Kharoshti legend Maharajasa Ayasa.
Copper	Tetradrachm	Humped Indian bull Greek legend; Basilieous Azoy in rude shape.	Lion to right Kharoshti legend Maharajasa Ayasa in rude shape.
Silver	Drachm	King on horse back to right Greek legend Basilieous Azoy.	Greek deity pallas, standing to right, with right arm outstretched and shield and spear on lieft side Kharoshti legend Maharajasa Ayasa.
Silver	Tetradrachm	Greek deity Zeus to left with right hand advanced, in left hand sceptre held transversely Greek legend; Basilieous Azoy.	Greek deity Nike to right, winged holds wreath and palm bound with fillet. Kharoshti legend; Maharajasa Aysa.

AZILISES

Silver	Drachm	The king on horse back to right, holds ankus, bow on saddle. Greek legend, Basilieous Azilisoy.	One of the Dioscuri, Kharoshti legend, Maharajasa Aylishase.
Silver	Tetradrachm	King on horse back to right, holding ankus in right hand, behind him bow. Greek legend Basilieous Azilious.	Greek deity Zeus standing to right with right arm outstretched and long sceptre in left hand. Kharoshti legend; Maharajasa Ayhisasa.

SPALAGADAMASA

Silver	Drachm	King on horse back, holds lance couched.	Greek deity Zeus, facing holds thunder bolt and long sceptre. Kharoshti legend Spalagadama.
--------	--------	--	---

SAPALIRES

Silver	Drachm	King on horse back and holds lance couched. Greek legend; Basilieous Sapliroy.	Greek deity Zeus facing holding thunder bolt and long sceptre. Kharoshti legend; Maharajasa Saplirisa.
--------	--------	--	--

GONDAPAHARS

Silver Tetradrachm

The king to right on horse back; holds ankus in extended right hand. Greek legend Basilios Gondapharoy.

Indian deity Siva holding in right hand trident. Maharaja Gudopharasa in Kharoshti.

ABDAGASES

Silver Drachm

Dia demed headed bust of the king to right. Greek legend; Basilieous Abdagases.

Nike to right, holding wreath and palm. Kharoshti legend; Maharajasa Avadagasa.

ZIONESES

Copper Tetradrachm

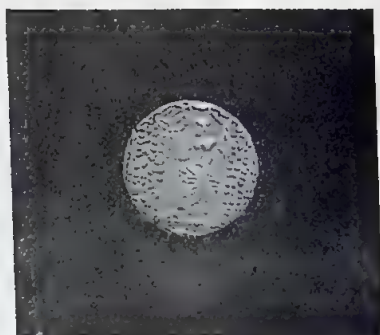
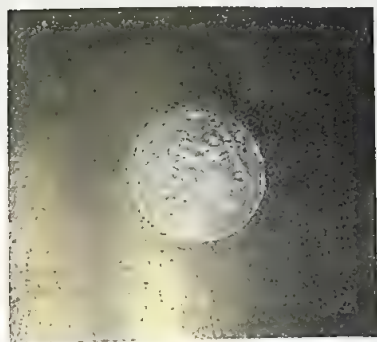
Rude figure of Humped bull to right. Greek legend; only traces of it are visible.

Rude figure of lion to right, around which Kharoshti legend indistinct.

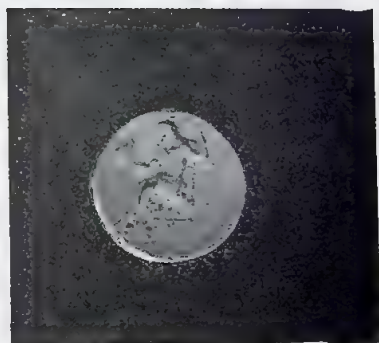
- ☐ History of Kashmir - P N K Bamzai
- ☐ History of Kashmir - P N K Bamzai
- ☐ List of coins and medals in SPS Museum Srinagar.
- G B Bleazby
- ☐ Himalya a practical guide, - Major HPS Ahluwala
- ☐ A History of Kashmir - P N K Bamzai
- ☐ The photograph of the coins was shown to me at IIRNS Nasik
Maharashtra in 1992-93
- ☐ A History of Kashmir - P N K Bamzai
- ☐ A History of Kashmir - P N K Bamzai
- ☐ Alexander's coin is listed in numismatic records of SPS Museum at
Srinagar.
- ☐ Panch marka coins are exhibited in numismatic gallery of SPS
Museum at Srinagar.
- ☐ A friend of mine told me that he purchased a hoard of 147 coins of
this type he also presented few pieces to me.
- ☐ Rajtarangni Kalhana - M. A. Stein
- ☐ History and Archaeology through the ages - S L Shali
- ☐ Greeks in Bacteria and India - Tarn
- ☐ Greeks in Bacteria and India - Tarn
- ☐ Numismatic gallery SPS Museum at Lal Mandi, Srinagar.
- ☐ History and Archeology through the ages - S L Shali
- ☐ Milindapanha - Ed. Trenckner
- ☐ History of Kashmir - P N K Bamzai
- ☐ Coins of Indo-Scythians - Cunningham
- ☐ List of coins and Medals in SPS Museum - G B Bleazby
- ☐ Indo-Greek Coins - R B White head



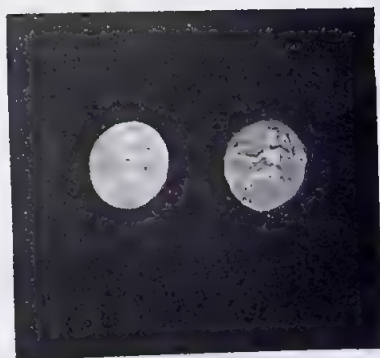
GREEK SILVER COINS 4TH AND 3RD CENTURY B.C.



Philip II of Macedon

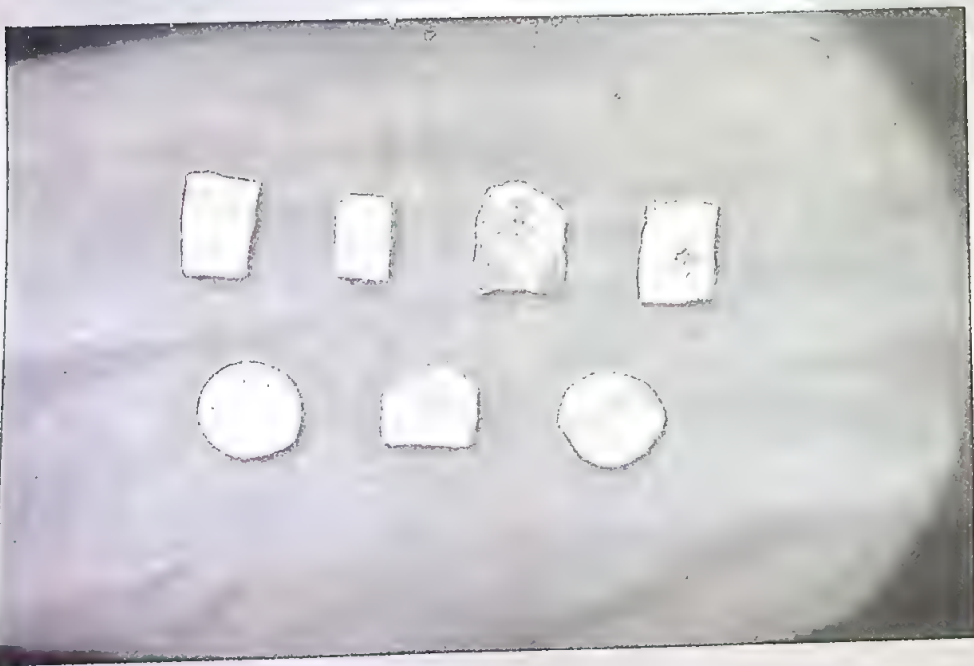
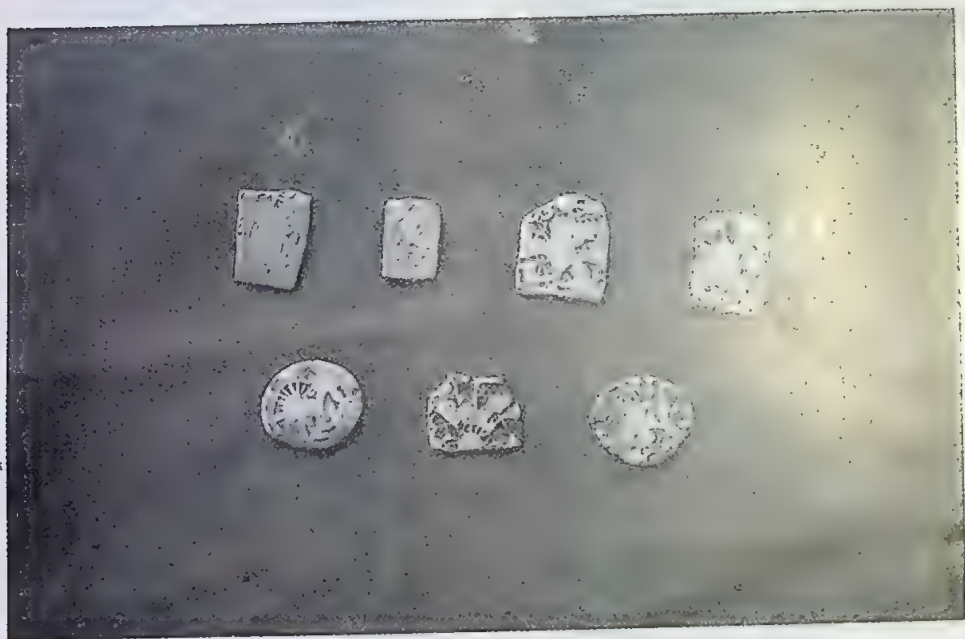


Alexander the Great

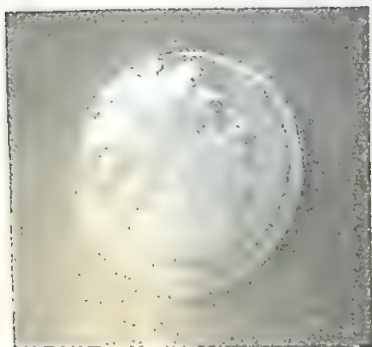


Alexander III of Macedon

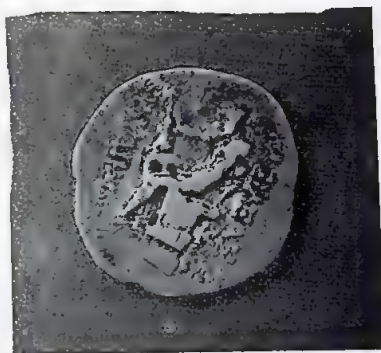
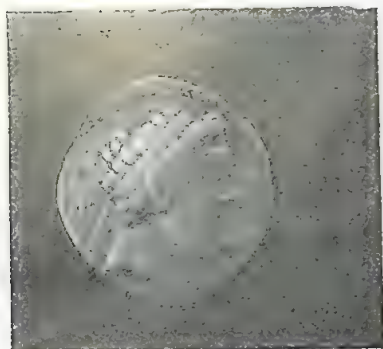
**KASHMIR SILVER PANCH MARKA COINS, 4TH AND 3RD
CENTURY B.C.**



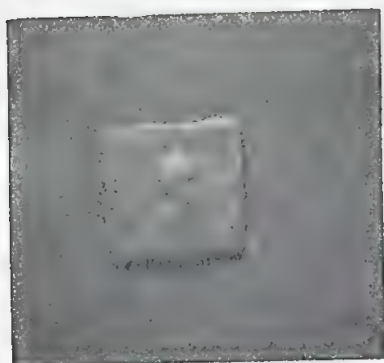
BACTRIN – GREEK COINS 3RD CENTURY B.C.



Diodotus

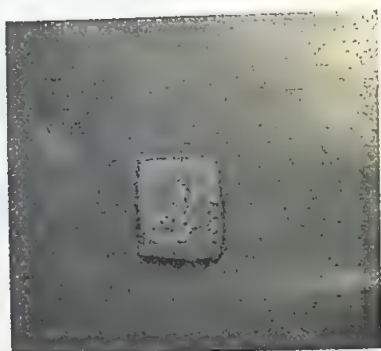
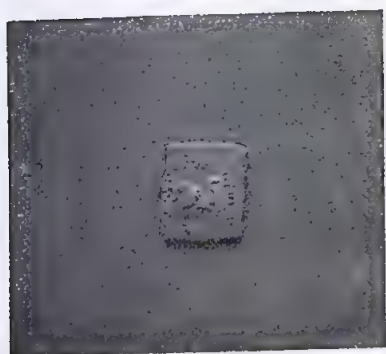
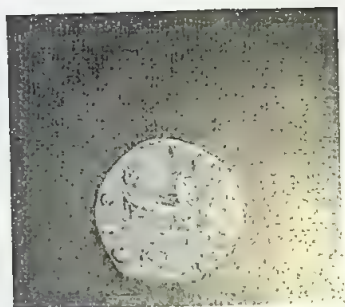


Euthydemus

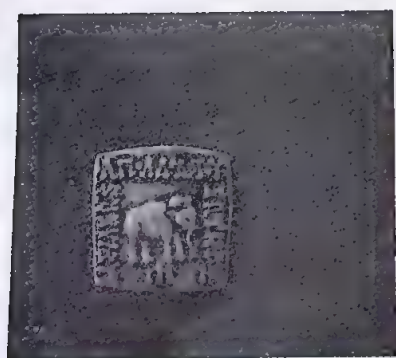


Eukratides

INDO - GREEK COINS 2ND CENTURY B.C.

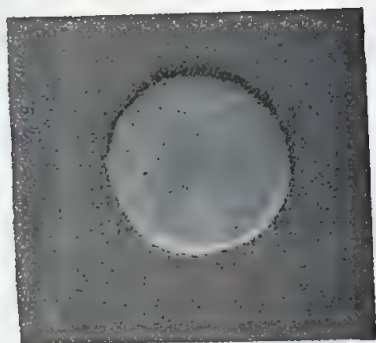
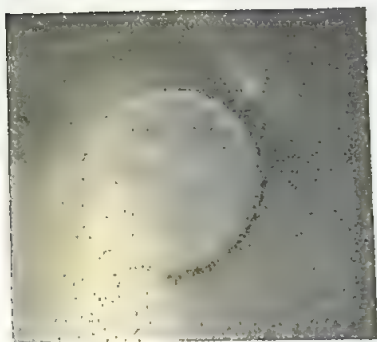


Menander

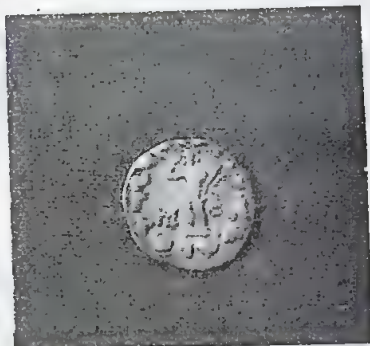


Appollodotus

INDO - GREEK COINS 2ND CENTURY B.C.



Appollodotus



Lyias



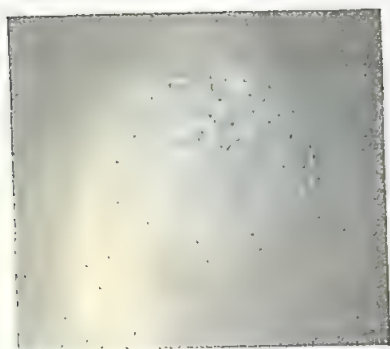
Hippostratus

INDO - GREEK COINS 2ND CENTURY B.C.

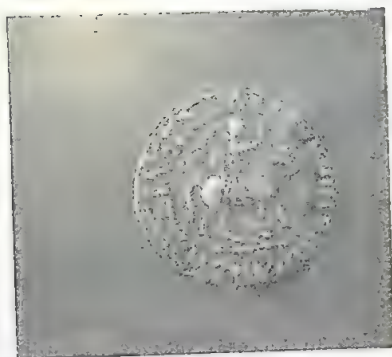


Hippostratus

INDO - SCYTHIAN COINS 1ST. CENTURY B.C.



Azes

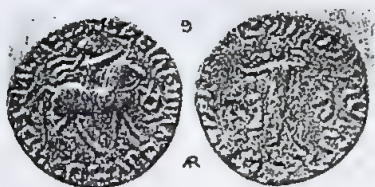


Azes

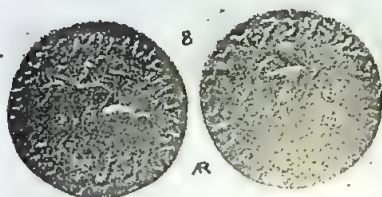


Azilises

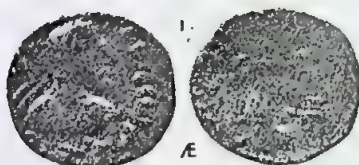
INDO - PARTHIAN COINS 1ST. CENTURY B.C.



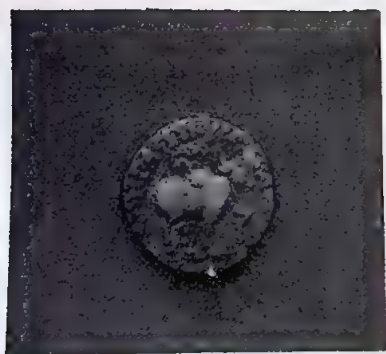
Satalires



Gondphares

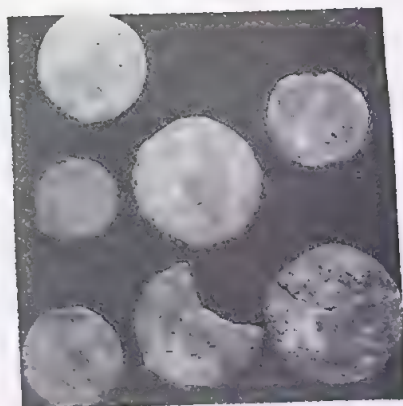
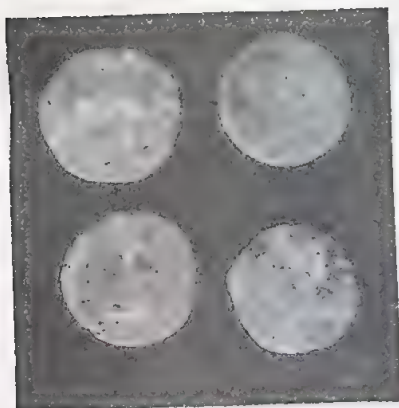
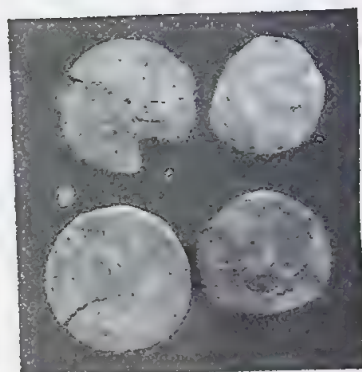
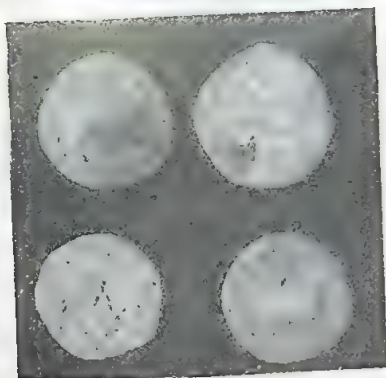
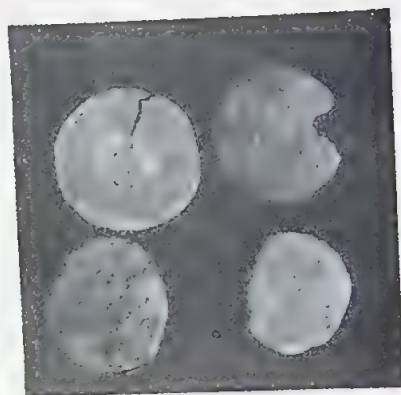
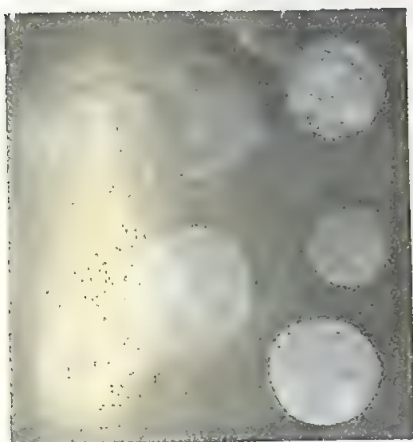


Abdogases

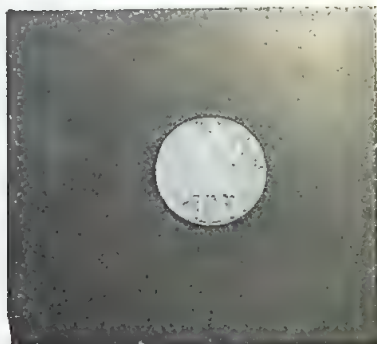
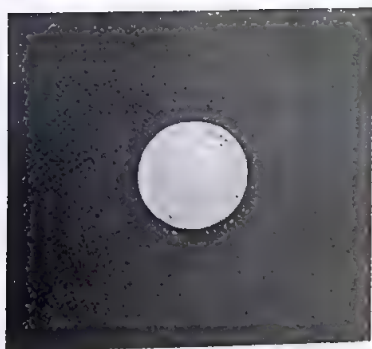
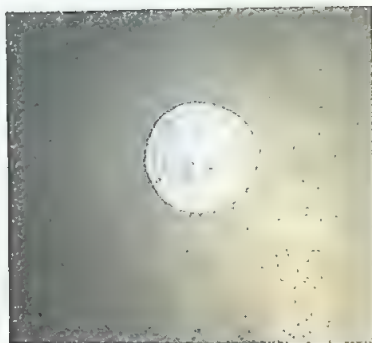
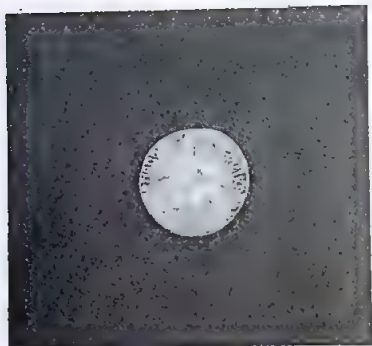


Zonises

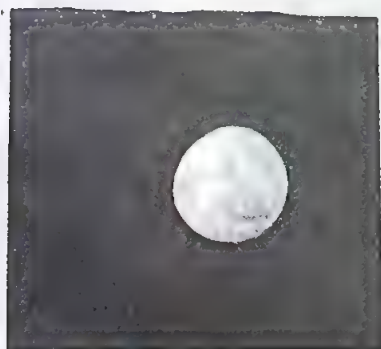
**HOARD OF INDO-GREEK AND SCYTHIAN COINS,
SEMITHAN BIJBEHARA**



**KUSHAN KASHMIR GOLD COINS BEARING GREEK
LEGENDS 1ST. CENTURY A.D.**

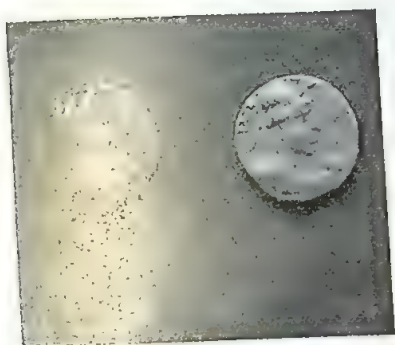


Kaniska



Huviska

**KUSHAN KASHMIR COPPER COINS BEARING GREEK
LEGENDS 1ST. CENTURY A.D.**

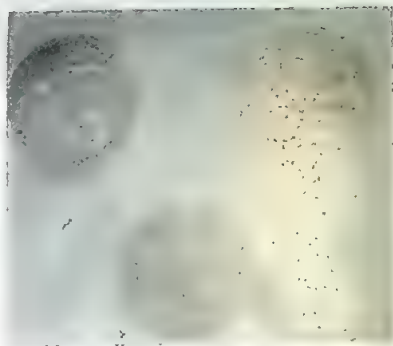
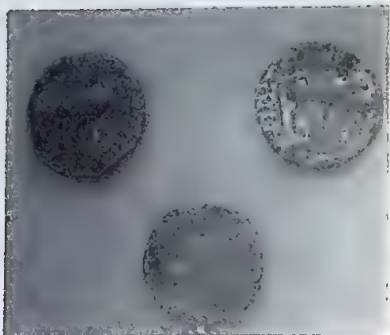


Soter Megas

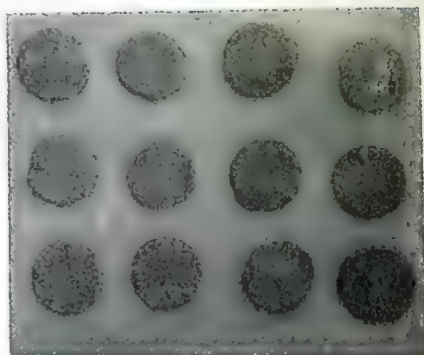
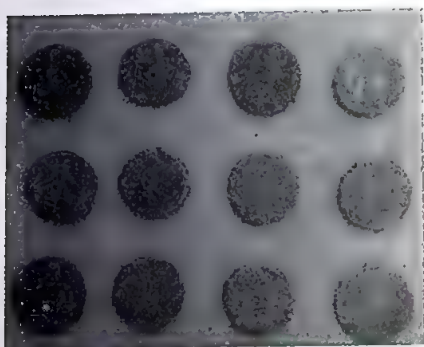


Kaniska

**KUSHAN KASHMIR COPPER COINS BEARING GREEK
LEGENDS KUPWARA AND BANDIPORA IST.
CENTURY A.D.**



Kujulakadphsis



Kaniska

**GRAECO – BUDHIST TILES HUTMUR ANANTNAG 2ND
CENTURY A.D.**



**GRAECO – BUDHIST TILES HARWAN, SRINAGAR 3ND
CENTURY A.D.**

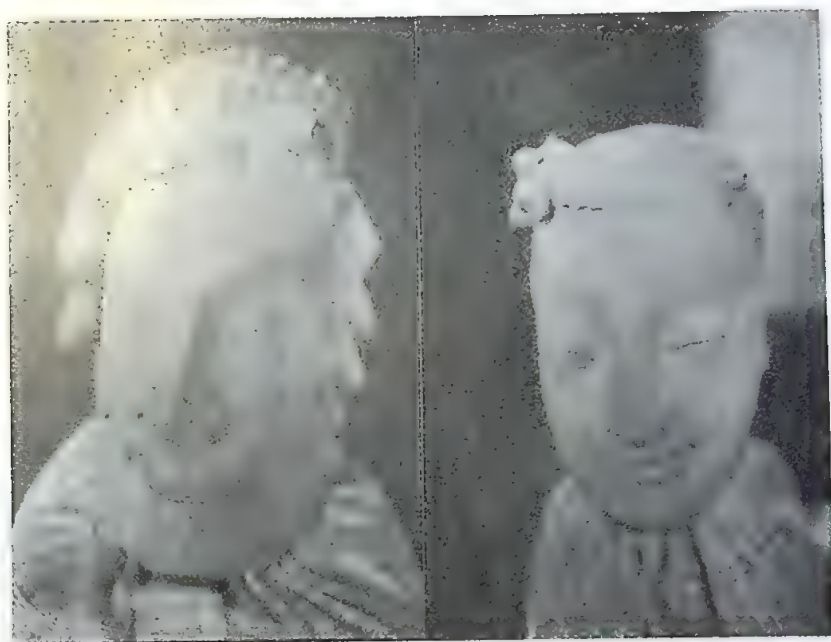


Man and woman in a
balcony, below a
running stag



Dancer

**GRAECO – BUDHIST HEADS USHKAR BARAMULLA 4TH
CENTURY A.D.**



Budha

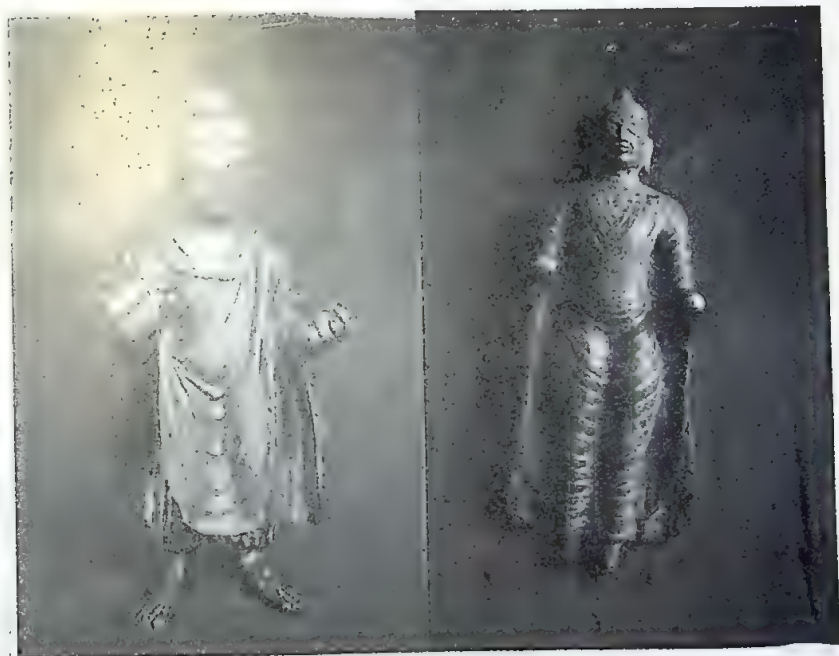
**GRAECO -- BUDHIST HEADS USHKAR BARAMULLA 4TH
CENTURY A.D.**



Budha

GRAEC.-BUDHIST BRONZE SCULPTURES DEVESAR

KULGAM 6TH CENTURY A.D.



Budha

GRAECO BUDHIST BRONZE SCULPTURES DEVESAR

KULGAM 10TH CENTURY A.D.



**GRAECO – BUDHIST STONE SCULPTURES PANDHRA
THAN 7TH CENTURY AD.**



Queen Maya



Budha

**GRAECO – HINDU STONE SCULPTURES BIJBEHARA 6TH
AND 7TH CENTURY AD.**



Parvati

Kartikya

GRAECO — BUDHIST STONE SCULPTURES

PARASHPURA BARAMULLA 8TH CENTURY AD.



Crowned Budha

Crowned Budha

**GRAECO – HINDU STONE SCULPTURES FOUND AT
PANDHRATHAN SRINAGAR 8TH CENTURY AD.**



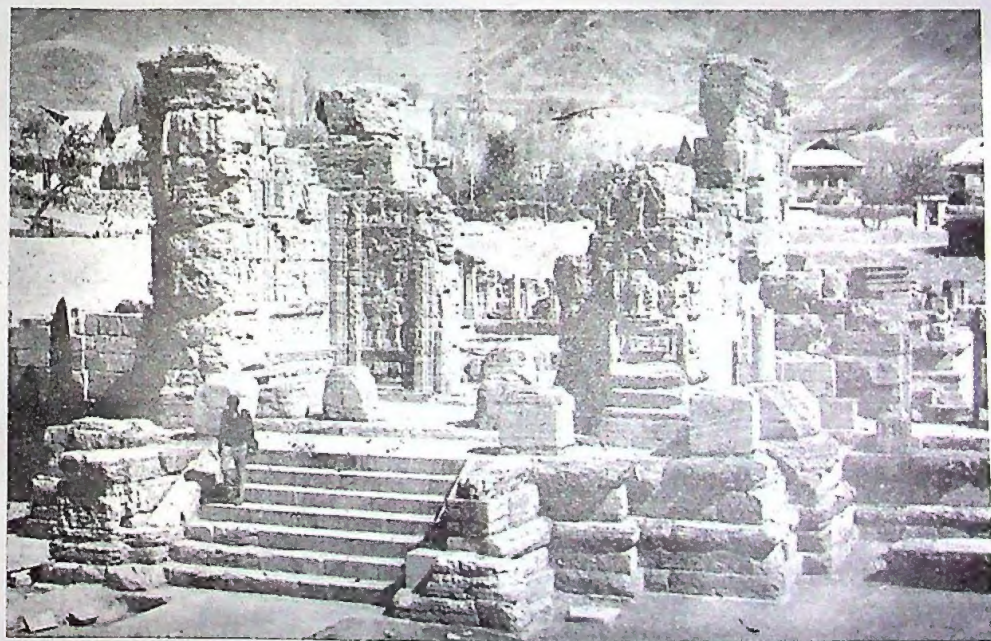
Varahi

Indrani

**RUINS OF GRAECO - ROMAN STYLED MONUMENTS
AT AVANITPURA 9TH CENTURY AD.**



Avantisvara temple



Avantisawami temple

**RUINS OF GRAECO – ROMAN STYLED MONUMENTS
AT MARTAND.**



Sun temple

